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REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's review of the specification, claims, and drawings. Further, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for forwarding the initialed Information Disclosure Statement to the undersigned on February 1, 2005. In light of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and, further, a Notice of Allowance of all claims, namely Claims 1-93. The amendments and remarks presented herein are fully supported by the application as originally filed. No new matter has been entered.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-23, 25-47, 49-69, and 71-92 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,624,176 to O'Farrell et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse. "A claim is anticipated if only each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Moreover, "the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim". *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 9 U.S.P.Q.2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

For ease of reference, Applicants have reproduced Claim 1 herein and, further, inserted several figures of the present application to illustrate the claimed invention.

1. (currently amended) A lighted exterior mirror system for a vehicle comprising:
 - an exterior mirror assembly, said exterior mirror assembly comprising a first portion adapted for mounting to a vehicle, a second portion, and a reflective element;
 - a reflective element support member supporting said reflective element, said reflective element support member mounting to an actuator operable to adjust the rearward field of

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view of said reflective element when said exterior mirror assembly is mounted to a vehicle, said actuator disposed at said second portion;

a turn signal indicator;

said turn signal indicator disposed adjacent to and separate from said reflective element, said turn signal indicator emitting a light beam at least generally laterally and rearwardly of the vehicle when said exterior mirror assembly is mounted to a vehicle and when said turn signal indicator is actuated;

said turn signal indicator adjusting in tandem with said reflective element upon adjustment of said actuator of the rearward field of view of said reflective element;

said light beam substantially unobservable by the driver of the vehicle; and

wherein said light beam does not pass through said reflective element.

Claim 1 calls for, for example, a lighted exterior mirror system which includes a reflective element and a reflective element support member mounting to an actuator operable to adjust the rearward field of view of the reflective element when the exterior rearview mirror assembly is mounted to a vehicle in combination with a turn signal indicator, which is disposed adjacent to and separate from the reflective element, with the turn signal indicator adjusting in tandem with the reflective element upon adjustment of the rearward field of view of the reflective element. Applicants respectfully urge that O'Farrell does not disclose or suggest the claimed combination. O'Farrell does not disclose or suggest, for example, a turn signal indicator that adjusts in tandem with a reflective element upon adjustment of the rearward field of view of the reflective element.

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FIGS. 45-46 of the application, which are reproduced herein for your reference, illustrate a turn signal indicator that adjusts in tandem with a reflective element upon adjustment of the rearward field of view of the reflective element. The word “tandem” is used in its ordinary sense to mean working in conjunction. In contrast, as illustrated in FIG. 1 of O’Farrell which is reproduced herein, O’Farrell does not disclose a turn signal indicator that adjusts in tandem with a reflector element upon adjustment of the rearward field of view of the reflective element. Consequently, Applicants respectfully urge that Claim 1 and its dependent claims are not anticipated nor made obvious by O’Farrell.

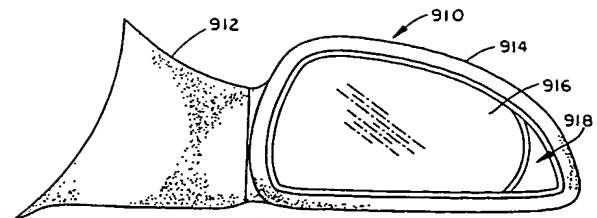


FIG. 45

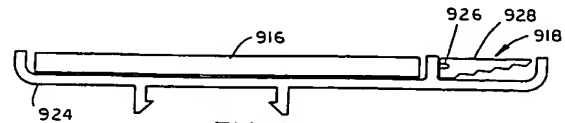


FIG. 46

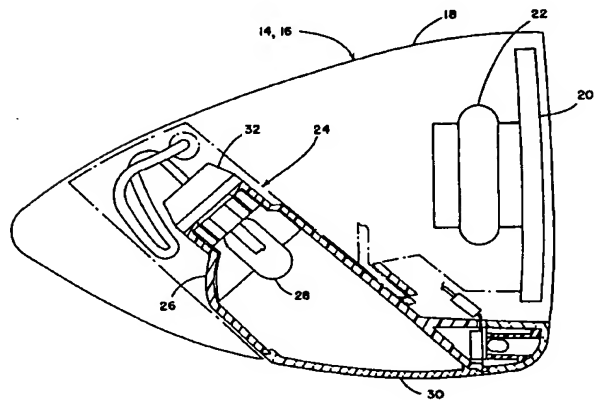


FIG. 1

Notwithstanding, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to clarify that the turn signal indicator adjustment is “in tandem with said reflective element upon adjustment by said actuator of the rearward field of view of said reflective element”. Applicants respectfully urge that the claimed combination is neither taught nor suggested by O’Farrell.

With respect to independent Claims 26, 49, and 72, each of the respective independent claims have now been amended to call for the turn signal indicator adjusting in tandem with the reflective element upon adjustment by the actuator of the rearward field of

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view of the reflective element. Therefore, each of the independent claims and their respective dependent claims, namely Claims 27-48 and 50-71 and 73-93, are patentably distinguishable over O'Farrell for at least the reasons set forth above.

Applicants respectfully urge that O'Farrell does not disclose, expressly or inherently, each and every element as set forth in the claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully urge that Claims 1-23, 25-47, 49-69, and 71-91 are patentably distinguishable over O'Farrell.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

The Examiner rejects Claims 24, 48, 70, and 93 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Farrell in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,883,732 to Peterson et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse. Claims 24, 48, 70, and 93, respectively depend from independent Claims 1, 26, 49, and 72. Therefore, Applicants respectfully urge that Claims 24, 28, 70, and 93 are patentably distinguishable over O'Farrell for at the least the reasons set forth above. Furthermore, Peterson does not cure the deficiencies of O'Farrell. For example, Peterson does not disclose or suggest, for example, a lighted exterior rearview mirror system with a turn signal indicator adjusting in tandem with a reflective element upon adjustment by an actuator of the rearward field of view of the reflective element.

In light of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and solicit a Notice of Allowance of all claims, namely Claims 1-93.

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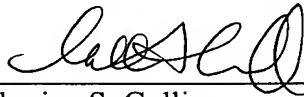
Should the Examiner have any questions or suggestions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 975-5506 or at collins@vglb.com.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

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